

**Karen Hornaday Park Committee Meeting
September 5, 2013
Meeting Synopsis**

Chair Robert Archibald called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Those present: Deb Lowney, Ralph Broshe, Miranda Weiss, Deb Cox, and Phil Needham.

The agenda was approved by consensus of the committee.

The minutes from April 4, 2013 regular meeting were approved by consensus of the committee.

There were no items for reconsideration.

VISITORS

A. Carey Meyer, Director, City of Homer Public Works

Carey gave a project status update on the new picnic pavilion at Karen Hornaday Park. (KHP) His focus is on spending remaining funds from Phase I Legislative Grant. The pavilion bid was awarded and work should get underway by September 16, 2013. The entire project was awarded with \$4000.00 in grant funds left over.

HoPP has additional funds, along with a \$5000 donation from Alaska Marine Freight in the name of Ray Clapp and \$4000 from Rotary that will be used for the construction of the fire pit and bench.

Carey discussed the location of the new pavilion and the desire to leave the old pavilion where it is until new Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) grant funds are available to provide funding for the move.

A discussion around the location of new pavilion ensued. The location selected pointed out that old pavilion has to be moved in order for proper placement of the new pavilion. A decision was made to meet with Carey at KHP to measure out exact location for new pavilion.

A foundation for old pavilion in a new location was estimated at \$20,000.00.

Deb Lowney commented that moving the old pavilion to a location between the two ball fields is not consistent with the KHP Master Plan and questioned if this is the best use of KHP funds.

LOWNEY/- MADE A MOTION TO DISMANTLE AND STORE THE OLD PAVILION PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PAVILION.

This passed with 5 yes and 1 No Vote. Phil Needham.

Carey commented on the \$50,000.00 from Phase 1 for road and parking. He feels that he is ready to address some of the concerns brought up by that engineering, and will bring the information to next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Discussion was held on hydro seeding day use area. Carey stressed the need for seeding around the new shelter. Phil asked about the elevation of the new shelter. Carey plans for it to be 16" above existing grade and he hopes to lay down topsoil and hydro-seed around area. Chair Archibald expressed concern regarding some drainage at foot of hill and water feature in playground. Ms. Lowney emphasized the LWCF Grant targets that area.

Miranda Cox brought up the climbing feature from HoPP and expressed concern for space (land) between that and the pavilion. It was agreed that during the site visit on Friday they will mark off these spaces. Miranda informed us that landscaping is currently happening in park in reference to grant in conjunction with Coastal Studies. The Hill below playground needs some major TLC.

Deb Lowney mentioned that maybe some of that work could be accomplished with volunteers.

Chair Archibald asked if Phil Needham could bring final plans for shelter tomorrow so that we can mark off the footprint for the pavilion and the rope structure. He also asked about the improvements to be made to the campground with the LWCF Grant. It was agreed to look at some of those concerns tomorrow.

Carey left the meeting.

Reports

Chair Archibald gave an update on meetings with Jack Wise and Angie Otteson.

Ralph Broshe addressed concerns regarding LWCF Grant. None of the grant funds go toward Woodard Creek. Who makes the decision on where and how this money gets spent? Deb Lowney addressed her concern for Woodard Creek and the fact that it is continually being pushed off the project list while projects not on the master plan get added.

Chair Archibald asked Carey to address this issue since he was still sitting in the audience.

Carey brought up the example of Mud Bay Trail. Establishing a primitive trail is first step. Get people walking the area to establish use would be second.

Deb Lowney recommended that we bring up a concern to Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the displacement of Woodard Creek project and the addition of a new project (trail around park) in LWCF Grant. Phil Needham expressed concerns about facilities we have that are not being maintained.

The reliance on volunteers is getting very concerning in reference to our parks and trails and now we have four new restrooms to clean. City needs to provide adequate funding to maintain what they have. It was noted that Public Works is over extended and needs some support.

New Business

The Proposed Phase II Karen Hornaday Park Master Plan was discussed briefly. This is a large document that the committee can work on during the winter. Thanks were expressed toward Jack Wiles for his help and expertise in the development of this document.

There were no comments from the Audience.

There were no comments from committee members.

The Meeting was adjourned with no decision on next meeting date.

Submitted by Robert Archibald & Deb Lowney